SOME LESSONS IN LATIN IN EASY RHYME.

FOR

GOOD CHILDREN;

FROM

PRETTY LESSONS IN VERSE

BY

SARA COLERIDGE.

THE FIFTH EDITION.

LONDON:
JOHN W. PARKER AND SON, WEST STRAND.
MDCCCLIII.

2026, edited by
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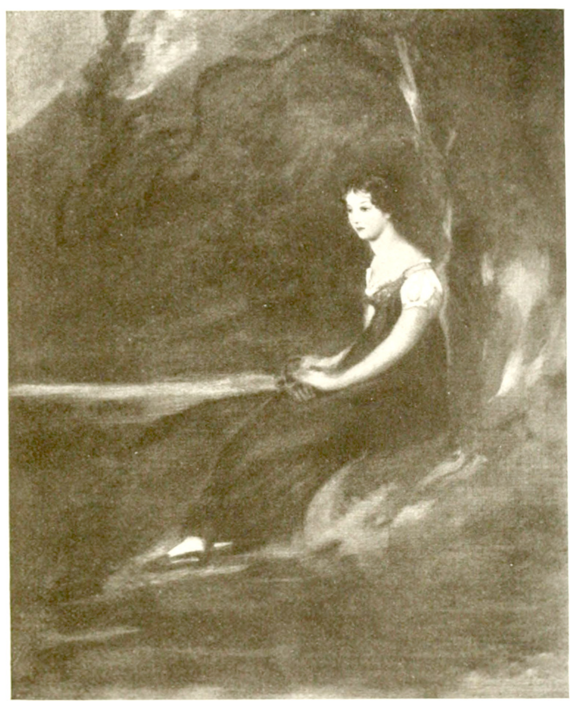
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PRETTY LESSONS IN VERSE FOR GOOD CHILDREN, with some Lessons in Latin, in Easy Rhyme. By SARA COLERIDGE. A New Edition, with Illustrations.

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Sara Coleridge, age 14

LESSONS IN LATIN.

CONTENTS.

LESSONS IN LATIN.



A **Father** is *pater*, a mother is *mater*,
A sister is *soror*, a brother is *frater*;
A child should obey both his father and mother,
And brothers and sisters should love one another.

Ramus means a bough,
Baculum a staff;
Vacca means a cow,
Vitulus a calf.

A bird is called *avis*,
A key is called *clavis*,
  And *clava*'s a club;
A nail or knob's *clavus*,
A grandfather *avus*,
  And *frutex* a shrub.

That *rex* is a king, *regina* a queen,
  And *regnum* a kingdom, to me is well known;
While *sceptrum*'s a sceptre, *corona* a crown,
  And *solium* has ever been Latin for throne.



I FEAR the wise folks will deride us
If we cannot tell them that *sidus*,
And *astrum*, and *stella* are Latin for star ;
At night you may see how it shines from afar.



Stagnum means a pool,
Fluvius a river ;
Arcus means a bow,
Pharĕtra a quiver ;
Telum means a dart,
Which in air doth quiver ;

Frigus means the cold,
  Which doth make us shiver;
Donum means a gift—
  Be a noble giver;

Cor doth mean the heart,
  Jecur means the liver;
Flumen, I am told,
  Means a flowing river.

Nox is the night,
  When up in the sky
The bright twinkling stars
  And moon you may spy.

Nux is a nut
  Which grows on a tree;
By cracking the shell
  The kernel you see.

Nix is the snow
  Which covers the ground,
When trees have no leaves,
  And flowers are not found.



Saltus is a lawn or glade,
Open space in wood or grove,
Deer will quit the sylvan shade,
There to sport and freely rove:

There a little purling brook
O'er its pebbly bed is playing:
Sheep for tender herbage look,
By its margin softly straying.

Grando is hail, and *tonitru* thunder,
And *fulmen* is lightning, and that is no blunder;
And *radix* a root, which grows the earth under,
And *flamen*'s a blast, which tears things asunder.

Aura means a gentle breeze,
Which curls the lake and moves the trees;
Ventus means the wind so loud,
Which tears the branch and drives the cloud.

A boy like my Herbert should ne'er
  Shed tears like a baby, and cry,
Because a new plaything or gift
  Mama may be forced to deny.

His Latin he always must say,
  And *puer* is Latin for boy,
And *donum* is Latin for gift,
  And *gaudium*'s Latin for joy.

When Herbert can say all his nouns,
  And likewise the four conjugations,
How much it will please his Papa,
  His Aunty, and all his relations!

Rice is *oryza*, and *milium* millet,
Corbis a basket,—with fruit let us fill it;
Mus is a mouse, the sly cat means to kill it;
    And *felis* is Latin for cat.

Thus is the frankincense, sweet when you smell it;
Quercus an oak, and the woodman will fell it;
Verbum 's a word, and my Herbert can spell it;
And *sorex* is Latin for rat.

Dens is a tooth, *gingīva* the gum,
And *manus* the hand, and *pollex* the thumb;
A finger is *digitus*, *cutis* the skin,
And *nasus* the nose, and *mentum* the chin;
And *oculus* means in Latin the eye,
With which many books you'll read by and by.

Nemus and *silva* I've long understood,
Both are in Latin the names for a wood.
Olor and *cygnus* are Latin for swan;
Lately I saw one glide gracefully on:
Smooth was the stream that he rested upon,
White was his plumage on which the sun shone.

Sol is the sun
Which shines in the sky;
What is the son
Whom here we espy?

Filius means son,
Filia means daughter;
Edith must learn this,
Latin must be taught her.

Pater means a father,
Genitor the same;
Genitrix and *mater*
Both are mother's name.

A MEADOW is *pratum*, a flower is called *flos*,
And *muscus*, my child, is the Latin for moss;
And *flumen*'s a river, and *stagnum* a pool,
Magister's a master, and *schola*'s a school.
A vineyard is *vinea*, *hortus* a garden,
And *venia* means what in English is pardon;
And pardon my Herbert must certainly ask,
If e'er he's accused of neglecting his task.

CRATER and likewise *cratēra*, I think,
Both mean a bowl out of which you may drink;
Corbis and *calăthus*, if you should ask it,
Both are, in Latin, the names for a basket;
Also, *canistrum* doth mean the same thing:
Herbert shall have one this very next spring,
Flow'rets, and pebbles, and mosses to bring.

THE lion in Africa reigns;
The tiger his empire maintains
In India's palm-bearing land:
And *leo* is Latin for lion;
I hope that I never shall spy one
Without his good keeper at hand:
A tiger is *tigris;* I trust I shall ne'er
Fall in with a tiger aroused from his lair.



CORN.

Spica means an ear of corn,
Gluma is the husk or sheath;
And *arista* is the beard—
Granum is the grain beneath.

Palea's the name for chaff,
Area the threshing floor;
Better know the whole than half,
Though you have to labour more.

HEARING is *audītus*,
Infant's cry *vagītus*;
Lacryma 's a briny tear?
Tears and heavy sighing,
Baby's piteous crying,
Ne'er may mother see or hear!

Sharpest thorn is *spina*,
Sword's sheath is *vagina*.
Ensis means a sword of steel;
Foemen fell and fierce,
Ne'er my child shall pierce,
Tearing thorn she ne'er shall feel.

Seta is a bristle,
Carduus a thistle.
Aper is a foaming boar;
Thistle ne'er shall prick her,
Bristle ne'er shall stick her,
No wild beast my babe shall gore.

THE LOST SPOON AND FORK.

AN elegant cup, I declare,
Of silver so pure and so bright,
Was given to my little boy,
And great was my Herbert's delight.

His joy would have been greater still
Could we but have placed in his sight
The pretty new spoon and the fork;
But they have not yet come to light.

The cup of pure silver is made,
A finer you never took up;
Argentum is Latin for silver,
And *poculum*'s Latin for cup.

Aqua is water, and *unda* a wave,
Sinus a bay, and *spelunca* a cave.
Vas is a vessel, and *cymba* a skiff:
Rupes and *petra* are Latin for cliff:
A skiff means a vessel so light and so limber,
And *lignum* is wood which is often called timber.

Silva's a wood, a forest, or grove,
In which we delight in summer to rove;
And *callis* the path by which we may ramble,
And *rubus*, I know, is the Latin for bramble.

Mare means the sea,
Litus means the shore;
Listen unto me,
I will tell you more.

Alga is sea-weed,
Concha is a shell;
If you take good heed,
You will know it well.
And my boy must understand,
That *arena* means the sand.



THE top of a tree *cacūmen* is called,
 And *umbra* is shade or shadow, you see;
To sit in the shade is pleasant enough;
 And Herbert shall climb to the top of the tree.

VIRGA's a rod, *flagellum* a whip,
 And *poculum* means a cup;
And *vinum* the wine which thence you may sip:
 Don't drink it too greedily up.

CŒNA is supper, and *prandium* dinner,
 And *epulum* means a feast;
And *dapes* are dainties, my little beginner,
 And *caro*'s the flesh of a beast.

An army is *exercĭtus*—it causes great dismay;
And *hostis* means the enemy that should be kept at bay;
And *agmen* means the army when it marches on its way,
And *acies* the army in its battle-field array,
And *copia* the armed force which makes a great display.
An arrow's *sagitta*, and *nervus* a string;
A bow is called *arcus*, and *funda*'s a sling.

PLANTS.

Vaccinium's a hyacinth,
And so is *hyacinthus;*
The tree that bears the turpentine
Was once called *terebinthus.*
And *myrtus* is the myrtle fair,
The daffodil *narcissus;*
And common flax is *linum* called,
And fine flax is called *byssus.*
Urtīca is the nettle's name,
Serpyllum is wild thyme,
Melissophyllon balm doth mean,
And *tilia* is the lime.
And as for the true ancient thyme,
That grew on Mount Hymettus,
'Twas *thymus capitatus* called:
Lactūca is the lettuce.

An army is *exercĭtus,*
And *classis* means a fleet;
And *sanguis* means the blood that flows
When fleets and armies meet.

TRUMPETER's *tubĭcen*, piper *tibīcen*,
One word is short and the other is long;
Coots are called *fulĭcæ*, soot is *fulīgo;*
Mind that you never accent the words wrong.

TIBIA's a flute, which is very sweet, *Tympănum*'s a drum, which you loudly beat; What a sound it gives when the people thump it! *Fistula*'s a pipe, *tuba* is a trumpet.

A TOWN is called *oppĭdum*, *urbs* is a city,
And *rus* is the country, so fresh and so pretty;
A hill is called *collis*, and *mons* is a mountain,
And *vallis* a valley, and *fons* is a fountain.

DOMUS means a house, *aula* means a hall,
Janua's a gate, *paries* a wall;
Porta means a door, *mensa* means a table,
Tectum means a roof, *stabŭlum* a stable;
A tower is called *turris*, a window *fenestra*,
A wrestling, the place where men wrestle, *palæstra*.

Caudex, and *codex*, and *stirps*, all three
Mean the great trunk or stem of a tree,
Which with its head and its limbs you see.
Truncus means nought but the stock or trunk,
Stripp'd of its boughs, beheaded and shrunk,
Shaven and shorn like any old monk.

Cortex means the bark, *fructus* means the fruit,
Ramus means a bough, *radix* means the root;
Folium's a leaf, *frons* doth mean the same,
Semen is the seed whence the forest came.

A shrub is called *frutex*, and *arbor*'s a tree;
And what, my dear boy, may the difference be
  That 'twixt trees and shrubs you have found?
'A tree with one stem or trunk springs from its root,
A shrub into several branches doth shoot
  As soon as it gets above ground.'

Hoar frost is *pruīna*, and *pluvia*'s rain,
And *nebula* mist, that hides mountain and plain;
And ice is called *glacies*, *aër* is air,
And *gĕlu* is frost, which the ice doth prepare.

A FATHER'S brother, mother's brother, are not called the same
In Latin, though an uncle is the only English name;
For *patruus* the first is called, from *pater*, I suppose;
The second is *avunculus*, as every scholar knows.
One kind of aunt is *patrua*, *avuncula* the other;
Privignus is a son-in-law, *noverca*'s a stepmother.
A grandmother is *avia*, and *nepos* a grandson;
And *avus* is a grandfather;—your task is not yet done.

Proăvus means a great-grandfather;
Abăvus, I have been told,
Means a man's grandfather's grandfather,
Who must be wond'rously old.

Atăvus—he is no lad,
He's a great grandfather's grandfather,
Trităvus means the grand-dad
Of a man's grandfather's grandfather.

PAIN AND PUNISHMENT.

Scutĭca's a scourge, *verber* is a lash:
Dread the rising surge, which doth fiercely dash.
Virga is a rod, *ictus* is a stroke;
Vulnus is a wound, which is not a joke.
Should the folks inquire, Herbert soon could tell 'em
That the horrid whip once was called *flagellum.*

WORDS ALIKE AND UNLIKE.

Acĭnus means the stone of grapes,
And *asĭnus* means an ass:
The boy that can't the difference see
May well for a donkey pass.

Tribulum means a thrashing machine,
And *tribulus* means a weed— The
caltrop, arm'd with a prickly fruit;
Its spikes would make you bleed.

Clava's a stout batoon or club,
And *clavis* a clef or key,
And *clavus* a nail, a button, or stud,
Which on the dress you see.

Olor doth mean the graceful swan,
And *oleum* oil so sweet; And *olus*
the excellent garden stuff—
The pot-herbs fit to eat.

Cucŭmis means the Cucumber
That winds along the ground;
Cucurbĭta the swelling gourd
That makes the bowl so round.

Pilum's a dart or javelin strong,
And *pilus* a worthless hair;
And *pila*'s a pestal to pound withal,—
A ball to toss in air.

Populus doth the people mean,
And also a poplar-tree;
And *poples* means the tender ham,
The part behind the knee.

Patĕra's a goblet;
Crater is a bowl:
Crown the cups with roses,
That's a merry soul!

Bring the rich dessert in,
Apples, nuts, and pears;
Strew the dish with posies,
Bid adieu to cares.

PRICKLES AND THORNS.

Sentis means a thorn-bush,
Spina means a thorn;
Go not near the quickset hedge
Lest your clothes be torn.

Spinus means a sloe tree,
Vepres means a bramble;
Try to keep away from it
When you take a ramble.

Dumus is a low bush,
Rubus is a brier;
When its blackberries are picked,
Throw it in the fire.

Ruscus is the knee-broom,
Carduus a thistle;
Goldfinch feasts on thistle-seed;
Hear his slender whistle;

Spanish broom *genista* is,
Filix is the fern;
In the woodlands you may spy it
Wheresoe'er you turn.

Ovis means a sheep,
Avis means a bird,
Equus means a horse,
Which is often spurred.

Terra is the earth,
Solum is the ground;
Gramen is the grass
Which thereon is found.

Ventus means the wind
Which is very loud;
Arbor means the tree
Which by wind is bowed.

Aura means a breeze,
Lacus means a lake;
Breezes shake the trees,
Breezes curl the lake.

Vacca means a cow,
Porcus means a pig;
Sus doth mean a sow,
Which is fat and big.

Caper is a goat,
Aries a ram;
Taurus means a bull,
Agnus means a lamb.



Lupus means a wolf,
Ursa is a bear,
Vulpes means a fox,
Lepus means a hare.

Elephas an elephant,
Leo is a lion, That 's a
very noble beast
As you e'er set eye on.

THE DECLENSIONS.

Musa—A Song.

What a pleasant song is learning,
When 'tis played in time and tune!
'Tis of finest sounds a concord
Which my boy must study soon.

When to this melodious strain
Herbert shall attune his voice,
Loud and lustily shall chant it,
How his parents will rejoice!

Dominus—A LORD.

Learning is the noble lord
Whom my boy must learn to serve:
Show him zeal and true obedience,
Choicest gifts from him deserve.

Magister—A MASTER.

Learning is the gracious master,
Whom my Herbert must obey:
Peace and plenty shall reward him,
Under that benignant sway.

Regnum—A KINGDOM.

Learning is the spacious realm
Which my Herbert may inherit;
If he rules it well and wisely,
Great, indeed, will be his merit.

Nubes—A CLOUD.

Though at times with heavy aspect
Learning like a cloud may lower;
Soon we view the cloud descending
In a fertilizing shower.

Lapis—A Stone.

Some a rugged stone may call it,
Only fit to knock one down;
I a precious jewel deem it,
Fit for any monarch's crown.

Opus—A Work.

Some esteem it toil and trouble,
Which nor profit brings nor pleasure;
I'll engage that it will render
Both in overflowing measure.

Parens—A Parent.

Learning is a loving parent :
Be his fond assiduous child;
Never from his happy presence
May my Herbert be exiled!
Though he seem to frown on truants,
Yet his nature, kind and mild,
Courts them to his arms indulgent,
Willing to be reconciled.

Gradus—A Step.

Learning is a step secure
To the bowers of fairy-land;
Through a flowery maze it leads us,
Nature's gifts at our command.

Facies—A Face.

Learning, Herbert, hath the features
Almost of an angel's face;
Contemplate them fixedly,
Learn by heart each speaking grace.
Truth and wisdom, high-wrought fancy,
In those lineaments we trace;
Never be your eyes averted
Long from that resplendent face.

THE FIVE DECLENSIONS.

In words of declension the first—
Attend, little scholar to me—
The singular genitive case
Doth constantly end in an *æ*.

In words of declension the second—
To learn it I beg you will try—
The singular genitive case
Doth constantly end in an *i*.

In words of declension the third—
Attend, little scholar, to this—
The singular genitive case
Doth constantly end in *is*.

In words of declension the fourth—
  Pray learn it without any fuss—
The singular genitive case
  Doth constantly end in an *us*.

In words of declension the fifth—
  I pray, little scholar, attend—
The singular genitive case
  In *ĕi* doth constantly end.

THE
WINDS, AND WHERE THEY COME FROM.

THE North is called *Septentrĭo*, And
thence the northern wind doth blow;
And *Boreas* the north wind's name is,
A keen and boist'rous blast the same is.

The South is called *Meridies*,
And thence comes many a humid breeze;
And *Auster* is the south wind's name;
Much rain doth oft come with the same.

And *Oriens* doth mean the East,
Whence blows the gale we love the least;
And *Eurus* is the east wind's name;
Injurious blights come with the same.

And *Occĭdens* doth mean the West,
Whence breathes the wind we love the best;
And *Zephyrus* the west wind's name is,
A soft and gentle breeze the same is.



BEES.

In Latin *apis* means a bee,
And honey is call'd *mel*,
And *favus* is the honey-comb,
And *cella* is the cell.

In Latin *cera* means the wax,
And *alvear* the hive,
In which the Bees their food prepare,
In which they live and thrive.

And *flores* are the fragrant flowers
They skilfully select;
And *pollen* is the yellow dust
Which they from them collect.

And *femur* is the tiny thigh,
Well fringed with useful hair;
And *tilia* is the linden-tree,
To which the bees repair.

And *mellio*'s the honey-gnat,
And *fucus* is a drone;
And *spiculum*'s the fearful sting,
Which causes many a groan.

Exāmen is the busy swarm,
And *gluten* is the glue
With which they stop the crevices,
When they their work review.

And *chrysălis* the curious case,
The cradle of the Bee;
And *propŏlis* the sticky stuff
Which on their doors you see.

But little did the ancients know
With what they feed their young;
And Virgil called the queen a king,
When of their works he sung.



ANIMALS IN LATIN.

I AM told *cercopithēcus*
Is the monkey's Latin name;
Simia is the ape so ugly,
Felis means the cat so tame.

Lutra is the swimming otter;
Skipping squirrel is *sciūrus;*
But the weasel is *mustēla,*
As the Latin books assure us.

Bufo is the lurking toad,
Greatly prized by witch and wizard;
Rana is the leaping frog,
And *lacertus* is the lizard.

Erīnaceus is the hedge-hog,
Talpa is the burrowing mole;
Mus the little nibbling mouse,
Which retires within his hole.

Stellio 's the spotted swift;
Vespertilio the bat;
Glis is Latin for the dormouse,
Sorex is the sharp-eyed rat.

Serpens means the creeping serpent,
Colŭber doth mean the same;
Anguis is the poison'd snake,
Vipĕra 's the viper's name.

I have read, too, that *echīnus*
Means the bristling rough sea-urchin:
All these words you'll surely find
When the classic works you search in.

FRUITS.

In Latin, *fructus* is a fruit,
And *bacca* is a berry,
And *mespĭlum* the medlar brown,
And *cerăsus* a cherry.

Olīva the green olive is,
And *ficus* means a fig;
And *nux* is Latin for a nut,
Which is not very big.

And *fragum* means a strawberry,
Which grows upon the ground;
And *morum* is the mulberry,
Which on a tree is found.

And *nux castănea* is that
Which we the chestnut call;
Nux avellāna likewise means
The filbert—best of all.

And *malum* doth an apple mean,
Adorned with ruddy streak;
And *malum Persĭcum* the peach,
Which hath a glowing cheek.

And *pomum* means an apple, too,
And *uva* means a grape;
Cucurbĭta the swelling gourd,
So globular in shape.

And *sorbum* is the service-berry;
Prunum is a plum;
And *glans* the little acorn is,
From which the oak doth come.

And *dactўlus* doth mean the date,
  Which on the palm-tree grows;
And *pyrum* is the juicy pear,
  With which my song shall close.

THE SEA.

Oceanus in Latin is the ocean's name;
  And *mare* means the sea, that ever ebbs and flows:
And *pelăgus* and *fretum* also mean the same;
  And *ventus* means the wind, that o'er the ocean blows.

And *nubes* are the clouds, and *cœlum* is the sky;
  Arēna is the sand, and *lītus* is the shore:
And *alga* 's the sea-weed, which on the shore doth lie;
  And *mergus* is the cormorant, which o'er the sea doth soar.

And *spĕcus* and *spēlunca* both are names for cave;
  And *nymphæ* are the nymphs who live beneath the main;
And water is called *aqua*, and *unda* is a wave,
  And *sal* 's the name for salt, which ocean doth contain.

Corălum is coral, and *concha* is a shell,
  And *spuma* is the froth that floats upon the wave;
And *saxum* means a rock—I'd have you mark it well:
  And *portus* means the harbour, which weary sailors crave.

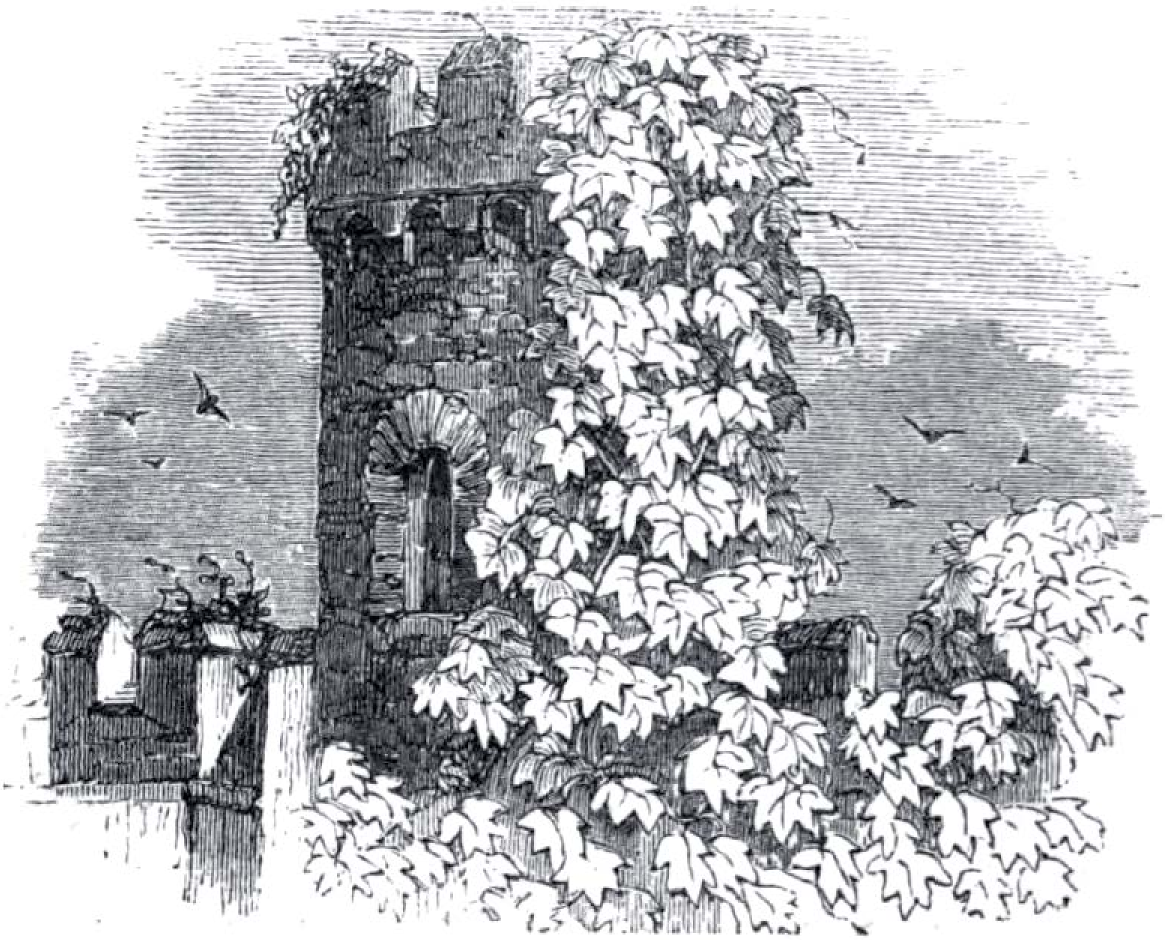
THE name for fish in Latin is *piscis*, I declare,
And *salmo* is the salmon, that doth to sea repair;
And *delphin* is a dolphin, so frolicsome and fair;
Balæna is a whale, a monster strong and bold;
And *ardea* 's a heron, which loves a fish to eat;
And *halcyon* 's the kingfisher, which on the coast you meet;
And *ostrea* 's an oyster, which many think a treat;
And *specula* 's a beacon, which mariners behold.

FLOWERS.

A LILY is called *lilium*, and *rosa* is a rose,
And *viola* 's the violet that blossoms in the shade;
And *crocus* is the saffron that in the meadow grows;
Papāver is the poppy whence opium is made.
Ligustrum some call privet, but others do allege,
That 'tis the snowy bindweed that hangs upon the hedge.

Vaccinium 's the hyacinth, of which the poets sing;
Some fancy it the bilbery that grows upon the hill;
And *primula* 's the primrose, the darling of the spring,
And *caltha* is the marygold, *anēthum* fragrant dill;
And *juncus* is a bulrush, *arundo* is a reed,
Ranunculus is crowfoot, and that 's a common weed.

That *thymbra* means strong savory, some writers do
aver;
Cerinthe is the honeywort in which the bees delight;
And ivy is called *hedĕra*, on that there's no demur;
Pæonia 's the peony, in richest crimson dight;
Verbena is the vervain, for healing virtue famed,
Centaurea the centaury, from wounded Chiron named.





AGRICULTURE.

THE land or earth is *terra*, and *ăger* is a field,
A husbandman's *agricŏla*, *arātrum* is his plough;
Frumentum is the corn or wheat which fertile earth doth yield,
And *messis* is the harvest which crowns the farmer's vow.

And *vomer* means the ploughshare, and scholars are agreed
That *stiva* is the handle, in ancient Latin lore;
And *lolium* is darnel, and that's a sorry weed,
Arātor is a ploughman, and *sator* is a sower.

• The land, when tilled, is *sĕges*, which also means a crop,
And *messor* is the reaper, and *granum* is the grain,
And *sēmen* is the seed which careful sowers drop;
A reaping-hook is *falx*, and *plaustrum* is a wain.

A fallow field is *arvum*, and *cespes* turf or sod,
And *rastrum* is a harrow, or what we call a rake;
Flagellum is a flail, and *gleba* means a clod,
And *crates* means a hurdle, and that is no mistake.

And oats are called *avēna*, and *stipŭla* is stubble,
And *hordeum* is barley, and that's a useful grain;
And *lappa* is the bur which gives the farmer trouble,
And *horreum*'s the granary which doth the corn contain.

And *satum* means that which is sown, the standing corn,
the blade, And *spica* means the spike, the
precious ear of corn;
Farīna is the flour which into bread is made,
And *culmus* is the straw on which the ear is borne.

Arista is the ear, more properly the beard,
Pistrīnum is the mill in which the corn is ground;
And *boves* are the oxen that for the plough are reared,
And *rota* is the wheel which in the mill goes round.

And *area*'s a thrashing-floor, and *palea* is chaff,
And Herbert must remember that *vannus* is the fan;
And *panis* means the bread which is of life the staff:
His bread my boy must earn as soon as he's a man.



PASTORALS.

In Latin *ovis* means a sheep,
And *aries* a ram;
And *vervex* is a wether's name,
And *agnus* means a lamb.

And *lana* is the name for wool,
And *vellus* means a fleece;
And *tonsor* is the shearer kind,
Who doth the sheep release.

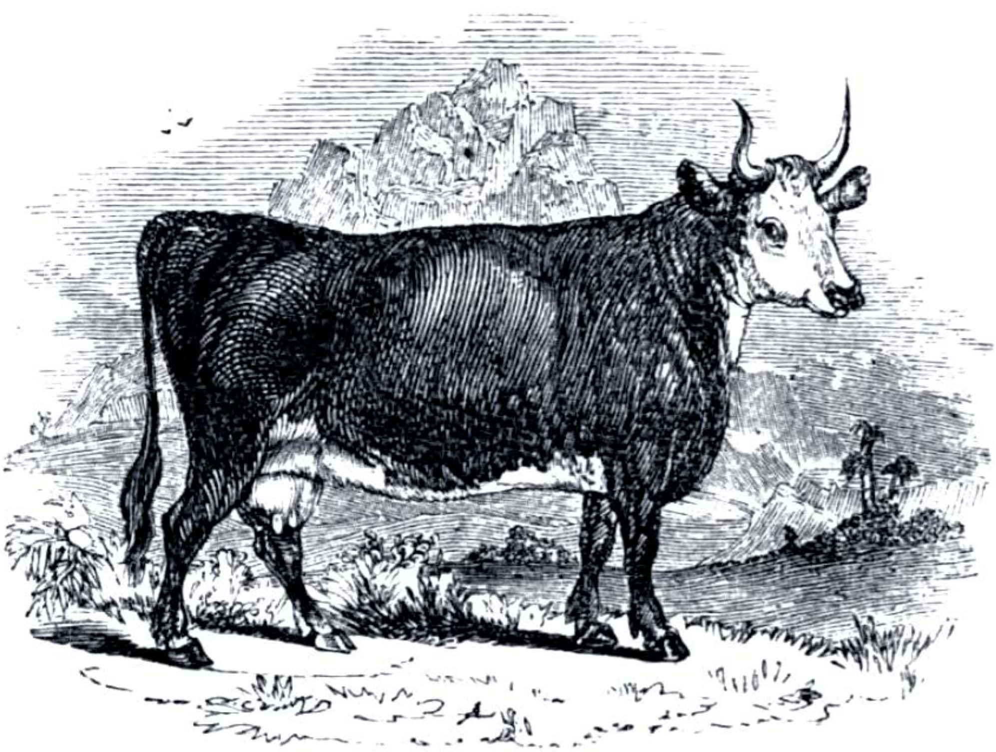
But *pastor* is the shepherd's name,
And *pedum* is his crook,
And *fistula* the flute or pipe
No shepherd e'er forsook.

And *grex* is Latin for a flock;
Ovīle means a fold,
Tugurium the little hut,
So lowly to behold.

And *pratum* doth the meadow mean,
Where tender herbage grows;
And *rivus* is the rivulet
Which by the meadow flows.

And *gramen* is the dewy grass
Well cropped by nibbling flocks;
And *canis* is the barking dog
Which drives them from the rocks.

And *umbra* is the shade they seek
Within the ancient grove;
And *sepes* is the verdant fence
O'er which they may not rove.



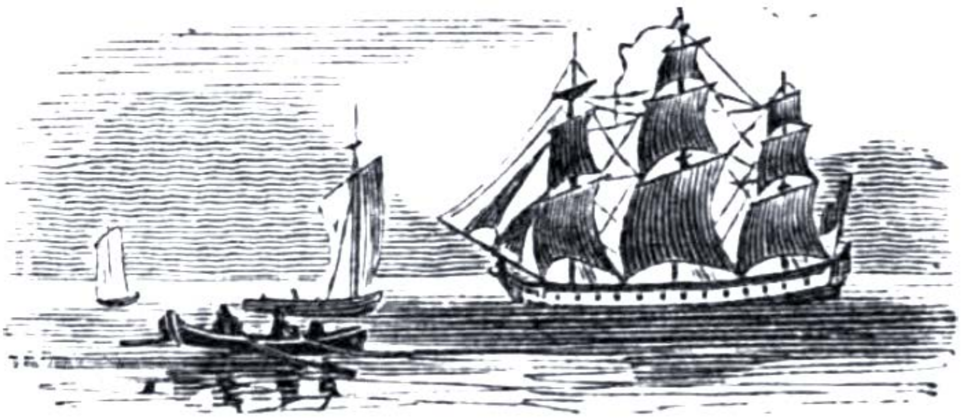
FIRE, &c.

THAT *ignis* is fire, and *flamma* a flame,
And *fumus* the smoke which comes from the same,
And ashes are *cĭnis*, I'd have you remember:
And as to *favilla*, it means a hot ember.
A hearth is called *focus*, and scholars will mark
That *fulgor* means brightness, *scintilla* a spark;
Black soot is *fulīgo*, and *follis* the bellows,
And heat is called *călor*, my good little fellows;
And *ardor* means burning, from which we receive
Our English word ardour, I really believe.

THE SHIP.

IN Latin, *navis* means a ship, and *cymba* means a skiff,
And *malus* means the towering mast that is so tall and stiff;
Antennæ mean the sail-yards, and *velum* is a sail,
And *lintea* are streamers that flutter in the gale;
The keel is called *carīna;* and, Herbert you must learn,
That *prora* means the prow, and *puppis* means the stern;
The rudder 's *gubernāculum*, and *remus* is an oar;
And *nauta* is a sailor, and *remex* is a rower:

A pilot 's *gubernātor*, he guides the ship along,
And *funis* is a cable, which should be stout and strong.
Phasēlus is a pinnace, a little ship or bark:
That *cornua* are yard-arms, I pray you learn and mark;
And *anchŏra* 's an anchor, and *carbăsus* a sail;
Naufrăgium is shipwreck, and *flātus* is a gale.



FIGHTING.

Ensis and *glădius* both mean a sword,
Both mean the blade with which foemen are gored;
Cassis and *gălea* both mean a casque,—
That means a helmet, if Herbert should ask.

Fustis and *clāva* do both mean a club,—
Hercules used one the dragon to drub;
Scutum and *clypeus* both mean a shield,
Which the stout warrior wears in the field.

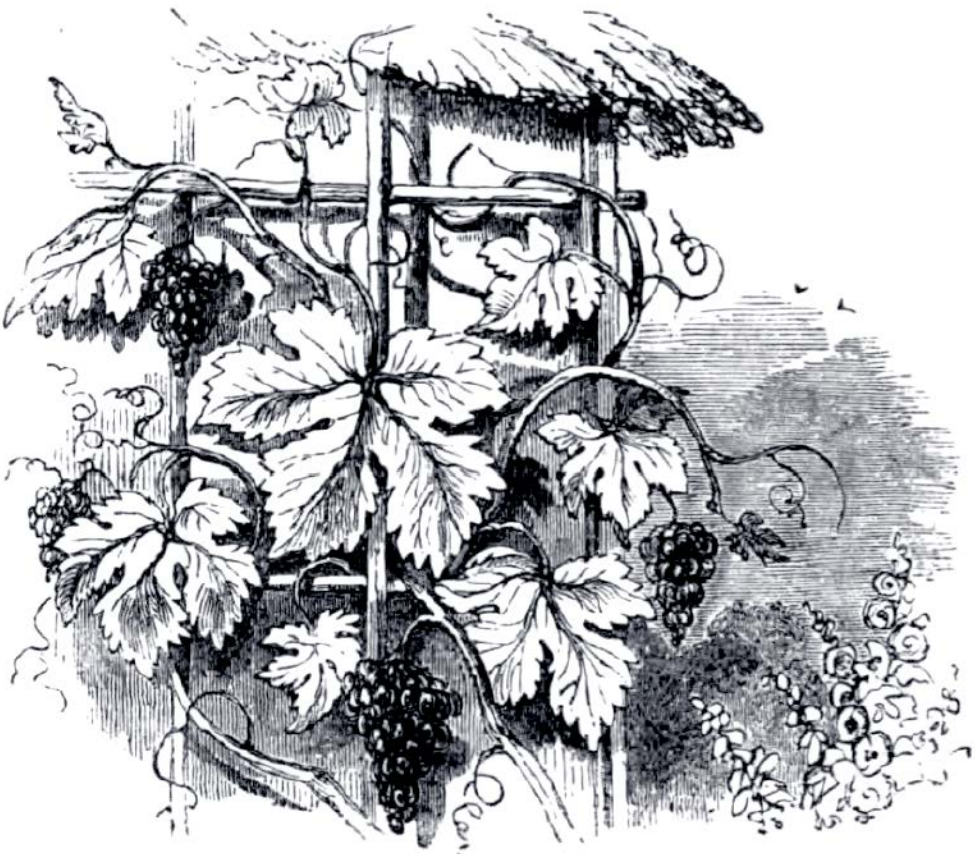
Hasta and *lancea* both mean a spear,
Which the brave combatants brandish and rear
Pilum and *jăcŭlum* javelin or dart,
Hurled by the hand at the enemy's heart.

Currus in Latin's a chariot or car,
Telum a dart that is hurl'd from afar:
As for *aurīga*, it means charioteer, *Cuspis* the
point of a weapon or spear.

Pugna and *prœlium* both mean a battle,
There the darts fly and the chariots rattle;
Mīlĭtes soldiers, who make up the host,
Dux is the gen'ral who never should boast.

Acies means a battalion, they say,
Also an army in battle array;
Sanguis and *cruor* mean blood that is shed
When the great armies to battle are led.

Hostis means army and likewise a foe;
As for *exercĭtus*, that, you must know,
Signifies army, and *campus* the field
Where they do battle, and conquer or yield.



THE VINE.

Vitis means the clasping wine,
Palmes means a twig or shoot;
Grapes which make the rosy wine
Are the vine's delicious fruit.

Vinea 's the pleasant vineyard,
And *propāgo* means a layer;
Vinitor 's the cultivator,
He who rears the plants with care.

There's another name for vineyards,
'Tis *vinētum* you must know;
Vinea and eke *vinetum*
Mean the place where vine-plants grow.

Uva means a bunch of grapes,
Grieved would all be to resign 'em;
But the sparkling wine they make,
Has the Latin name of *vinum*.

Tendrils are *capreŏli*,
And *racēmus* means a cluster;
Some are purple, some are green,
Lovely both in form and lustre.

Prelum is the squeezing press,
Where the grape's rich blood is gushing;
Pampĭnus a leaf or vine-branch,
Whereupon the grapes are blushing.

Acĭnus a grape-stone means—
Once it stopped a poet's breath;
But the grape's inflaming juice
Causes many a proser's death.

Some will tell you that *vinaceum*.
Means a single grape or berry:
All agree that good grape wine
Is the drink to make one merry.

BIRDS.

A SWALLOW is *hirundo*, and *noctua* 's an owl,
The osprey's *halĭëtos*, a most rapacious fowl ;
The sooty coot is *fulĭca*, the screech-owl is called *strix*,
And *pica* is the magpie, so fond of playing tricks ;
And *passer* is the sparrow, and *regulus* a wren,
And *perdix* is a partridge, *gallīna* is a hen ;
And *aquĭla* 's an eagle, and *gallus* chanticleer,
Alauda is the skylark we love so much to hear ;
And *turtur* is the turtle-dove, *monedula* 's a daw,
And *cornix* is the crow or rook, that doth so loudly caw ;
An ostrich is called *struthio*, *columba* is a pigeon ;
Palumbes is the ring-dove, *Penelope* the widgeon ;
And *larus* is the sea-mew that wails above the wave,
Just like the ghost of some one that found a watery grave ;
The cuckoo is called *cuculus*, and *turdus* is a thrush,
And *vultur* is the vulture who on his prey doth rush ;
And *pavo* is the peacock that wears a gorgeous train,
Luscinia is the nightingale, and *grus* a long-necked crane ;
And *corvus* is a raven, and *milvus* is a kite,
Accipiter the sharp-eyed hawk, so ready for a fight ;
And *halcyon* 's a king-fisher, of whom a tale is told,
Which you, my little boy, shall read before you're very old.

INSECTS.

A COMMON fly is *musca*,
And *apis* means a bee,
Papilio's a butterfly,
So beautiful to see:
A spider is *aranea*,
And *limax* means a snail;
And *vespa* is the slender wasp,—
A sting is in his tail.

Cicāda is an insect
That sings a merry song;
Formīca is the busy ant
That labours late and long;
And *vermis* is the earth-worm
That crawls along the ground;
And *fucus* is the lazy drone,
That ne'er at work is found.

The hornet fierce is *crabro*,
And *tinea* the moth That flies
about the candle's flame,
And frets away your cloth;

And *culex* is the humming gnat,
And *pulex* is a flea;
I wish that neither of the twain
Would ever come to me.

TREES.

In Latin *ulmus* means an elm,
Which grows all o'er this noble realm;
And *fraxĭnus* the ash so fair,
Which many a bunch of keys doth bear;
And *thus* the tree which doth dispense
Arabia's pleasant frankincense.
The hazel is called *corўlus*,
The spreading plane is *platănus*,
Cedrus is the fragrant cedar;
And the yew, my little reader,
Is *taxus* named; and I aver
That *abies* means the hardy fir,
Sambūcus is the elder fair
Which doth such fragrant blossoms bear;
And *quercus* means the knotted oak,
Which yields to many a sturdy stroke;
One sort of oak, as I believe,
The name of *robur* did receive:

And *robur* is the name for timber,
And *larix* is the larch so limber.
The maple with a rugged bark,
Is *acer* called ; and pray remark
That *siler* is the withy-tree,
The boughs of which bend gracefully ;
And *pinus* is the pine that grows
On lofty mountains capp'd with snows ;
And *ilex* is the dark holm-oak,
Which shining leaves in winter cloak.
But *ornus* is the mountain-ash,
Which grows where rocky streamlets dash ;
Its berries are as red as coral :
And *laurus* some translate a laurel,
But I have heard good scholars say
That *laurus* is the Italian bay.

MORE TREES.

THE cypress with her lofty spire,
A tree which poets much admire,
Was *cyparissus* named of old,
And eke *cupressus*, I've been told ;
And *betula* 's the slender birch, For twigs
of which we need not search ;

And *fagus* is the spreading beech,
The top of which a boy can reach;
And *tilia* is the light green lime,
The boughs of which a boy may climb;
And *suber* is the cork tree's name,
And *buxus* what the box doth claim;
The strawberry tree is *arbŭtus*,
The poplar tree is *popŭlus;*
And *salix* doth the willow mean,
With hoary leaves of soft sea-green;
And *cornus* is the cornel-tree,
The fruit of which is fair to see—
'Tis also called cornelian cherry;
And *sorbus* bears the service-berry;
And *spinus* is the armed thorn,
Which lovely flowers in spring adorn;
And *alnus* is the alder dark,
With blackish spots upon its bark.
Castanea is the chestnut-tree,
On which the bearded nuts we see;
And *palma* is the palm so high,
Which grows beneath a burning sky.
The olive-tree of graceful growth
Is *olea* and *ŏlīva* both:
The wilding olive's *oleaster;*
And so you'll find, my little master.

THESE trees are all feminine, saving a few,
And those that are masculine are but these two;
The thorn, which produces the wild plum or sloe,
And also the tree on which wild olives grow;
Their names, *oleaster* and *spinus*, you know.
But five are called neuter, as Latin books say, sir,
Thus, *robur*, and *suber*, and *siler*, and *acer*.



THE END.